IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28, 32 and 34 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and amend the claims as shown below. The claims, as currently pending in the application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus comprising:

a reception unit for receiving frame images generated from a plurality of ~~communication terminals~~ cameras via a network in a summary mode in which frame images generated from a plurality of cameras are displayed automatically and independently of users control operation;

an output unit for outputting the frame images received by said reception unit in order to display the frame images for each respective communication terminal on a display unit as multiple image displays corresponding respectively to each of the plurality of ~~communication terminals~~ cameras;

a detection unit for detecting whether or not, for each respective ~~communication terminal~~ camera, a current frame image displayed by the display unit is updated by a next frame image being received by the reception unit in the summary mode; and

a notification unit for causing the display unit to display, for each respective one of the multiple image displays, ~~a symbol~~ an icon indicating an update state of the received frame images for the respective image display, wherein the ~~symbol~~ icon is displayed on a predetermined area of the display unit at a time when the corresponding frame image is displayed,

wherein said notification unit causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in a first condition~~ a flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to an updating state when the detection unit detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit is updated by a next frame image, and causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in a second condition~~ a non-flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to a non-updating state when the detection unit detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit is not updated by a next frame image, and

wherein, in the summary mode, receiving one frame image from the camera corresponds to displaying the flashing icon one time and display of the non-flashing icon corresponds to a period of time between receiving the one frame image from the camera and receiving a subsequent frame image from the camera.

2. to 5. (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said notification unit does not perform notification when [[the]] a frame rate is high, and performs notification when the frame rate is reduced.

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Currently Amended) A communication method comprising the steps of:

receiving frame images generated from a plurality of ~~communication terminals~~ cameras via a network in a summary mode in which frame images generated from a plurality of cameras are displayed automatically and independently of users control operation;

outputting the received frame images in order to display the frame images for each respective ~~communication terminal~~ camera on a display unit as multiple image displays corresponding respectively to each of the plurality of ~~communication terminals~~ cameras;

detecting whether or not, for each respective ~~communication terminal~~ camera, a current frame image displayed by the display unit is updated by a next frame image being received in the summary mode; and

causing the display unit to display, for each respective on of the multiple image displays, ~~a symbol~~ an icon indicating an update state of the received frame images for the respective image display, wherein the ~~symbol~~ icon is displayed on a predetermined area of the display unit at a time when the corresponding frame image is displayed,

wherein said causing the display unit to display ~~a symbol~~ an icon causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in a first condition~~ a flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to an updating state when the detecting detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit is updated by a next frame image, and causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in a second condition~~ a non-flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to a non-updating state when the detecting detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit is not updated by a next frame image, and

wherein, in the summary mode, receiving one frame image from the camera corresponds to displaying the flashing icon one time and display of the non-flashing icon corresponds to a period of time between receiving the one frame image from the camera and receiving a subsequent frame image from the camera.

9. to 12. (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim 8, wherein the notification is not performed when [[the]] a frame rate is high, and is performed when the frame rate is reduced.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus comprising:

a reception unit for receiving a part or all of frame images generated from image generation units of a plurality of corresponding ~~communication terminals~~ cameras via a network in a summary mode, in which frame images generated from a plurality of cameras are displayed automatically and independently of users control operation, by switching the frame images;

an output unit for outputting the frame images received by said reception unit in order to display the frame images for each respective ~~communication terminal~~ camera on a display unit as multiple image displays corresponding respectively to each of the plurality of ~~communication terminals~~ cameras;

an assigning unit for assigning an arbitrary image display from among the multiple image displays;

a control unit for controlling a state of outputting of the image display assigned by said assigning unit;

a detection unit for detecting whether or not, for each respective ~~communication terminal~~ camera, a current frame image displayed by the display unit is updated by a next frame image being received by the reception unit in the summary mode; and

a notification unit for causing the display unit to display, for each respective one of the multiple image displays, ~~a symbol~~ an icon indicating an update state of the received frame images for the respective image display, wherein the ~~symbol~~ icon is displayed on a predetermined area of the display unit at a time when the corresponding frame image is displayed,

wherein said notification unit causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in a first condition~~ a flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to an updating state when the detection unit detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit is updated by a next frame image, and causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in a second condition~~ a non-flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to a non-updating state when the detection unit detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit is not updated by a next frame image, and

wherein, in the summary mode, receiving one frame image from the camera corresponds to displaying the flashing icon one time and display of the non-flashing icon

corresponds to a period of time between receiving the one frame image from the camera and receiving a subsequent frame image from the camera.

16. to 19. (Cancelled).

20. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said notification unit does not perform notification when [[the]] a frame rate is high, and performs notification when the frame rate is reduced.

21. (Cancelled).

22. (Currently Amended) A communication method comprising the steps of:

receiving a part or all of frame images generated from image generation units of a plurality of corresponding ~~communication terminals~~ cameras via a network in a summary mode, in which frame images generated from a plurality of cameras are displayed automatically and independently of users control operation, by switching the frame images;

outputting the received frame images in order to display the frame images for each respective ~~communication terminal~~ camera on a display unit as multiple image displays corresponding respectively to each of the plurality of ~~communication terminals~~ cameras;

assigning an arbitrary image display from among the multiple image displays;

controlling a state of outputting of the assigned image display;

detecting whether or not, for each respective ~~communication terminal~~ camera, a current frame image displayed by the display unit is updated by a next frame image being received in the summary mode; and

causing the display unit to display, for each respective one of the multiple image displays, ~~a symbol~~ an icon indicating an update state of the received frame images for the respective image display, wherein the ~~symbol~~ icon is displayed on a predetermined area of the display unit at a time when the corresponding frame image is displayed,

wherein said causing the display unit to display ~~a symbol~~ an icon causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in a first condition~~ a flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to an updating state when the detecting detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit is updated by a next frame image, and causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in a second condition~~ a non-flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to a non-updating state when the detecting detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit is not updated by a next frame image, and

wherein, in the summary mode, receiving one frame image from the camera corresponds to displaying the flashing icon one time and display of the non-flashing icon corresponds to a period of time between receiving the one frame image from the camera and receiving a subsequent frame image from the camera.

23. to 26. (Cancelled).

27. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim 22, wherein said notification step is not performed when [[the]] a frame rate is high, and is performed when the frame rate is reduced.

28. (Cancelled).

29. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer-executable program, said program comprising:

reception process code executable to receive frame images generated from a plurality of ~~communication terminals~~ cameras via a network in a summary mode in which frame images generated from a plurality of cameras are displayed automatically and independently of users control operation;

output process code executable to output the received frame images in order to display the frame images for each respective ~~communication terminal~~ camera on a display unit as multiple image displays corresponding respectively to each of the plurality of ~~communication terminals~~ cameras;

detection process code executable to detect whether or not, for each respective ~~communication terminal~~ camera, a current frame image displayed by the display unit is updated by a next frame image being received in the summary mode; and

notification process code executable to cause the display unit to display, for each respective one of the multiple image displays, ~~a symbol~~ an icon indicating an update state of the received frame images for the respective image display, wherein the ~~symbol~~

icon is displayed on a predetermined area of the display unit at a time when the corresponding frame image is displayed,

wherein said notification process code causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in a first condition~~ a flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to an updating state when the detection process code detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit is updated by a next frame image, and causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in a second condition~~ a non-flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to a non-updating state when the detection process code detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit is not updated by a next frame image, and

wherein, in the summary mode, receiving one frame image from the camera corresponds to displaying the flashing icon one time and display of the non-flashing icon corresponds to a period of time between receiving the one frame image from the camera and receiving a subsequent frame image from the camera.

30. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer-executable program, said program comprising:

reception process code executable to receive a part or all of frame images generated from image generation units of a plurality of corresponding ~~communication terminals~~ cameras via a network in a summary mode, in which frame images generated from a plurality of cameras are displayed automatically and independently of users control operation, by switching the frame images;

output process code executable to output the received frame images in order to display the frame images for each respective ~~communication terminal~~ camera on a

display unit as multiple image displays corresponding respectively to each of the plurality of ~~communication terminals~~ cameras;

assigning process code executable to assign an arbitrary image display from among the multiple image displays;

control process code executable to control a state for outputting of the assigned image display;

detection process code executable to detect whether or not, for each respective ~~communication terminal~~ camera, a current frame image displayed by the display unit is updated by a next frame image being received in the summary mode; and

notification process code executable to cause the display unit to display, for each respective one of the multiple image displays, ~~a symbol~~ an icon indicating an update state of the received frame images for the respective image display, wherein the ~~symbol~~ icon is displayed on a predetermined area of the display unit at a time when the received frame image is displayed on the corresponding image display,

wherein said notification process code causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in a first condition~~ a flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to an updating state when the detection process code detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit on the corresponding image display is updated by a next frame image, and causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in a second condition~~ a non-flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to a non-updating state when the detection process code detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit on the corresponding image display is not updated by a next frame image, and

wherein, in the summary mode, receiving one frame image from the camera corresponds to displaying the flashing icon one time and display of the non-flashing icon corresponds to a period of time between receiving the one frame image from the camera and receiving a subsequent frame image from the camera.

31. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus comprising:

a reception unit for receiving frame images generated from a ~~communication terminal~~ camera via a network in a summary mode in which frame images generated from the camera are displayed automatically and independently of users control operation;

an output unit for outputting the frame images received by said reception unit in order to display the frame images on a display unit;

a detection unit for detecting whether or not a current frame image displayed by the display unit is updated by a next frame image being received by the reception unit in the summary mode; and

a notification unit for causing the display unit to display ~~a symbol~~ an icon indicating an update state of the received frame images, wherein the ~~symbol~~ icon is displayed on a predetermined area of the display unit at a time when the corresponding frame image is displayed,

wherein said notification unit causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in first condition~~ a flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to an updating state when the detection unit detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit is updated by a next frame image, and causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in second condition~~ a non-

flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to a non-updating state when the detection unit detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit is not updated by a next frame image, and

wherein, in the summary mode, receiving one frame image from the camera corresponds to displaying the flashing icon one time and display of the non-flashing icon corresponds to a period of time between receiving the one frame image from the camera and receiving a subsequent frame image from the camera.

32. (Cancelled).

33. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 31, wherein said notification unit does not perform notification when [[the]] a frame rate is high, and performs notification when the frame rate is reduced.

34. (Cancelled).

35. (Currently Amended) A communication method comprising the steps of:

receiving frame images generated from a ~~communication terminal~~ camera via a network in a summary mode in which frame images generated from the camera are displayed automatically and independently of users control operation;

outputting the frame images received in said receiving step in order to display the frame images on a display unit;

detecting whether or not a current frame image displayed by the display unit is updated by a next frame image being received in the summary mode; and

causing the display unit to display ~~a symbol~~ an icon indicating an update state of the received frame images, wherein the ~~symbol~~ icon is displayed on a predetermined area of the display unit at a time when the frame image is displayed,

wherein said causing the display unit to display ~~a symbol~~ an icon causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in a first condition~~ a flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to an updating state when the detecting detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit is updated by a next frame image, and causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in a second condition~~ a non-flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to a non-updating state when the detecting detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit is not updated by a next frame image, and

wherein, in the summary mode, receiving one frame image from the camera corresponds to displaying the flashing icon one time and display of the non-flashing icon corresponds to a period of time between receiving the one frame image from the camera and receiving a subsequent frame image from the camera.

36. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer-executable program, said program comprising:

reception code executable to receive frame images generated from a ~~communication terminal~~ camera via a network in a summary mode in which frame images generated from the camera are displayed automatically and independently of users control operation;

output code executable to output the frame images received by said reception code in order to display the frame images on a display unit;

detection process code executable to detect whether or not a current frame image displayed by the display unit is updated by a next frame image being received in the summary mode; and

notification code executable to cause the display unit to display ~~a symbol~~ an icon indicating an update state of the received frame images, wherein the ~~symbol~~ icon is displayed on a predetermined area of the display unit at a time when the received frame image is displayed,

wherein said notification code causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in a first condition~~ a flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to an updating state when the detection process code detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit is updated by a next frame image, and causes ~~the symbol to be displayed in a second condition~~ a non-flashing icon to be displayed corresponding to a non-updating state when the detection process code detects that a current frame image displayed by the display unit is not updated by a next frame image, and

wherein, in the summary mode, receiving one frame image from the camera corresponds to displaying the flashing icon one time and display of the non-flashing icon corresponds to a period of time between receiving the one frame image from the camera and receiving a subsequent frame image from the camera.

37. to 40. (Cancelled).